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II. Claims

Claims 1-15 are currently pending. Claim 2 has been amended as set forth below. This listing and version of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims.

1. (original) A siding panel, comprising:

a sheet of polymeric material, said sheet including a molded central portion comprising a plurality of adjacent shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said shingle impressions including a bottom edge, at least one of said bottom edges being beveled to give the appearance of shingles having different lengths.

2. (currently amended) The siding panel of claim 1, further comprising:

a first lateral edge portion containing a butt edge; and

a second lateral edge portion containing a nail edge and including a plurality of preformed fastener apertures therethrough, said first and second lateral edge portions being formed substantially independently from said forming of said central portion while the polymeric material in said central portion has a temperature below its heat deflection temperature and the polymeric material in said first and second lateral edge portions is above its heat deflection temperature.

3. (original) The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said shingle impressions are vacuum formed on a rotating belt.

4. (original) The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said polymeric material comprises polyvinyl chloride.

5. (original) The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said siding panel has a length of at least 10'.

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6. (original) The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said central portion comprises a thickness of about .03-.125".

7. (original) The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said shingle impressions are cedar shake shingle impressions and a plurality of said bottom edges are beveled.

8. (original) The siding panel of claim 7, wherein alternating bottom edges are beveled.

9. (original) The siding panel of claim 7, wherein said plurality of said bottom edges are beveled in a non-periodic pattern.

10. (original) A continuously formed siding panel, comprising:

a sheet of polymeric material, including a central portion comprising a plurality of adjacent shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said shingle impressions including a bottom edge, a plurality of said bottom edges being beveled to give the appearance of shingles having different lengths;

a butt edge disposed along a first lateral edge portion of said sheet; and

a nail edge disposed along a second lateral edge portion of said sheet, said butt edge and said nail edge being formed substantially independently from said central portion.

11. (original) The siding panel of claim 10, wherein said shingle impressions are vacuum formed, blow molded, compression molded, transfer molded or injection molded.

12. (original) The siding panel of claim 10, wherein said shingle impressions are cedar shake shingle impressions.

13. (original) The siding panel of claim 12, wherein alternating bottom edges are beveled.

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14. (original) The siding panel of claim 12, wherein said bottom edges are beveled in a non-periodic pattern.

15. (original) A continuously formed siding panel of substantially unlimited length, comprising:

an extruded sheet of polymeric material comprising polyvinyl chloride, said sheet including a central vacuum-formed portion having a plurality of adjacent cedar shake shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said cedar shake shingle impressions having a bottom edge, a plurality of non-adjacent cedar shake shingles having a bottom which is beveled to give the appearance of shingles having different lengths;

a butt edge disposed along a first lateral edge portion of said sheet; and

a nail edge disposed along a second lateral edge portion of said sheet, said lateral edge portions formed after said central portion has been vacuum-formed and while the polymeric material in said lateral edge portions is above the heat deflection point of said polymeric material.